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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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Agenda items 146 and 147
STATUS OF THE PROTOCOLS ADDITIONAL TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS OF 1949 AND RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF ARMED CONFLICTS
CONSIDERATION OF EFFECTIVE MEASURES TO ENHANCE THE PROTECTION, SECURITY AND SAFETY OF DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS AND REPRESENTATIVES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Fifty-fourth year

Letter dated 10 May 1999 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the statement by the Government of the People's Republic of China issued on 8 May 1999 concerning the NATO attack against the Chinese Embassy in Belgrade, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, on 7 May 1999 (see annex).

In addition, I wish to inform you that, as of 10 May, there were 3 persons dead and 20 injured, 5 seriously, who remain hospitalized in critical condition in Belgrade.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 146 and 147, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) QIN Huasun
Ambassador and
Permanent Representative of
China to the United Nations

Annex

Statement by the Government of the People's Republic of China
issued on 8 May 1999

The United States-led NATO dropped three missiles from different angles on the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia at midnight Friday. The building of the Embassy was seriously damaged. Up till now, 2 had been confirmed dead while more than 20 were injured, with 2 others missing.

The United States-led NATO has been wantonly bombing Yugoslavia for more than 40 days, killing and wounding large numbers of innocent civilians, and now it has even launched an airstrike against the Chinese Embassy. The action is a gross violation of Chinese sovereignty and a random violation of the Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations and norms of international relations. This is rare in diplomatic history.

The Chinese Government and people express their utmost indignation and severe condemnation of the barbarian act and lodge the strongest protest. The United States-led NATO should bear all responsibilities arising therefrom. The Chinese Government reserves the right to take further action on the matter.